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The Highlander

Thursday **May 9 2024** | Issue 639

INSIDE: HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY PAGES 16-18

FREE



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Five-year-old Lachlan Creedy proudly stated that he manned the fire hose at last year's first responders day too, so he knows how to do it. Firefighter Jarrod Lawrence lends a helping hand. See the full story and more photos on page 14.

Photo by Kimberly Strong-Knight.

New plan aims to protect, nurture Glebe Park

By Mike Baker

A new 10-year stewardship plan for Glebe Park has been finalized and will focus on felling dangerous and hazardous trees, maintaining existing trail routes, and upgrading mapping at the 175-acre property.

Jim Blake, chair of Dysart's Glebe Park and museum committee and curator of the Haliburton Sculpture Forest – located within the park – told Dysart et al council April 23 volunteers had been working on the plan since 2019. It replaces a previous strategy that had been in place since 2010.

“An enormous amount has happened since then – it feels like a completely different park now,” Blake said. “The introduction of mountain bike trails, the expansion of our snowshoe trails that now traverse the entire park, the new residence buildings for the college... it's a fantastic space for the community to explore.”

The plan features three stewardship objectives – promote the space for recreational and cultural use, maintain the park's ecological integrity, and ensure visitors are safe.

One of the biggest projects, Blake said, will be bringing down trees that are dead, or dying, due to beech bark disease. The ailment is an insect fungus caused by a beech scale bug, which feeds on the trees, causing cankers that spread and eventually kill the trees.

Blake said beech bark disease has been prevalent in the park for years but is now becoming a major problem, with most of the impacted trees now dead.

“We are dealing with them – we're taking the trees down and then the recommendation is they be left where they are. We don't want the wood taken out of the forest because that just transfers the disease somewhere else,” Blake said.

Continued 'Deer' on page 2

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Jim Blake pictured beside a sculpture inside Haliburton's Glebe Park. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

Deer looking for food in park

Continued from page 1

He noted volunteers assess trees regularly throughout the year and make note of any that could be hazardous. Blake said one of the committee members, a retired forester, then makes a final assessment. If a tree needs to be felled, Blake said he works with a local company who completes the job “for a very reasonable price.”

The environmental makeup of the forest has changed over the years, Blake said. An increased presence of deer has seen some native species, such as eastern hemlock, almost completely eradicated. With the township passing a policy outlawing deer feeding in Haliburton village, the animals are frequenting Glebe Park more often looking for food.

Blake said the park's increased deer population could be partly responsible for declining maple tree regeneration, with sugar maple seedlings a go-to snack.

After seeing other native populations like Canadian Yew and ground hemlock take a hit recently, Blake said a key part of the plan is developing permanent sample plots throughout the forest, to be monitored and inventoried regularly, to track

changes and trends in forest structure and composition.

In terms of trails, Blake said there are 13.5 kilometres dedicated for cross-country skiing, 7.66 kilometres for snowshoeing, 12.5 kilometres for hiking, and more than 10 kilometres for mountain biking.

“We have an enormous amount of action in the forest... it's also incredibly popular for dog walking,” Blake said, noting a second garbage can specifically for dog waste will be installed this year.

He said Glebe Park is “maxed out” for double-tracked wide trails and told council development of any new trail loop is unlikely in the near future. There is a plan to improve signs and mapping to help people move around the property.

Blake said there's also a recommendation to replant some white pine trees at Glebe to help the forest get back to its roots.

“Originally, the forest would have been all white pines with some maples growing under them, but at some point all the white pines were taken out... we want to fix that,” Blake said.

Council endorsed the plan, which is to run until 2034.



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New emergency room doc joins HHHS

By Lisa Gervais

A new emergency department physician at Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), will reduce its dependence on Health Force Ontario locum physicians, CEO and president, Veronica Nelson said.

A locum is a physician who, on a temporary basis, fulfills the duties of a doctor who is absent, or who fills a role required by a hospital or practice that is short-staffed.

Nelson added Dr. Ali Bohra, who started May 2, also offers “a breadth of clinical skills from which our patients will benefit.”

County physician recruitment coordinator, Wendy Welch, explained Dr. Bohra is an emergency room specialist, not a family doctor that also does emergency. “And he’s been practising for many years.”

The County of Haliburton, in a joint press release with HHHS, said Dr. Bohra responded to a physician recruitment advertisement last fall and visited the Highlands in February with his spouse.

“Thanks to his visit, interactions with the team, and the warm welcome Dr. Bohra and his family experienced, he is excited to join HHHS,” the County and HHHS said.

Warden Liz Danielsen added, “the addition of Dr. Bohra will result in improved access to local health care for our residents and visitors to the County.”

Danielsen further said his commitment as an ED physician will have “a profound impact” on the Highlands. “His passion for healthcare, calm demeanor, and excitement to contribute positively to the community will no doubt leave a lasting impression.”

The Highlander requested an interview

with Dr. Bohra, but was told HHHS and the County wanted to give him time to settle into his role before speaking with media. He was quoted in a press release as saying, “I think it’s high time for me to serve the community with respect and dignity, the same way I would wish for myself.”

Danielsen said the successful recruitment is the result of a team effort over many months between the chief of staff at HHHS, Dr. Keith Hay, and Welch.

Welch said recruiting physicians is complex at the best of times and having them come from overseas involves an added dimension, looking into immigration and visas, and the resulting red tape.

“It can be very frustrating. It takes a lot of patience. But it is so rewarding when it works out. When he started, he was just so happy to be here, so appreciative, and just so thankful.”

Welch said Dr. Bohra is staying in a County-leased property for likely two months, providing time to find something more permanent. The County also incentivizes doctors as posted on its website.

She said there will be a learning curve for him, coming from a different country, and to a rural hospital, from an urban health care facility.

She added she has a few other leads, including some from the U.K., Canada, and some U.S.-trained. “So, I’ll just keep working wherever I get the leads from.”

Danielsen said, “as we know, physician recruitment is very challenging in this current competitive market, thus ensuring we take a collaborative and innovative approach helps to bring incredible talent like Dr. Bohra to



Wendy Welch, Dr. Ali Bohra, and Dr. Keith Hay on Dr. Bohra's first day. *HaliDoc/Facebook.*

the Highlands.”

Nelson said as part of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) requirement to onboard Internationally-trained physicians who are exam eligible, there is a component where a supervisor is assigned until the physician has had the opportunity to pass the exams within a three-year period.

“HHHS is fortunate to have supervisors available to support Dr. Bohra on his

journey to receive his independent practice certificate,” she said.

On the HaliDoc Facebook page, Debbie Wales welcomed Dr. Bohra.

“I had the pleasure of meeting you tonight at the ER and was very impressed with your compassion and thorough explanation in layman’s terms, in treating my sister’s broken leg. Thank you for joining the Haliburton team and welcome to Haliburton. I hope you will love it.”

Students surveyed on school climate

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) has announced the launch of the school climate survey beginning May 6 and closing May 10.

The survey assists the board and schools in understanding how students experience school supports, social and emotional learning, as well as their feelings on a safe and inclusive environment. The information

collected helps TLDSB grow in the area of providing learning environments that foster equity, inclusion, and belonging.

“TLDSB seeks to hear directly from students about how they are feeling at school,” said TLDSB director of education, Wes Hahn. “We hope all Grade 4 to 12 students complete the survey, as the information collected will help schools and

TLDSB gain a deeper understanding of the student experience.”

There are two surveys – one for students in Grades 4-8 and one for students in Grades 9-12. Within the survey, students will be asked questions on engagement, mental health, school safety, and inclusivity. Students will be given class time to complete the online survey.

“We want to hear about the school culture and it is the student’s who can best provide this information,” said associate superintendent of learning, Tanya Fraser. “There are no wrong answers and identifying information is not collected, so we hope students answer with confidence knowing that they can help make a difference.” (Lisa Gervais).

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ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS NEWS**Input sought**

Residents on Kawagama Lake are being invited to participate in a community questionnaire to provide feedback on the proposed rehabilitation of the Russell Landing water access point.

Chris Card, Algonquin Highlands' parks, recreation, and trails manager, told council May 2 the \$175,000 restoration will proceed this year. He wanted to ensure the public was consulted on the design. A letter will be sent out to property owners this week, while information can also be found online through the township's Bang the Table platform.

"This questionnaire provides an opportunity to gain input on the availability and suitability of the parking area, as well as determine the overall uses of this location and what launch locations on the lake are being most frequently utilized," Card said.

Work will focus primarily on a deteriorating wooden retaining wall, which needs to be replaced. An assessment of a stone retaining wall and adjoining wooden crib wall structure that attaches to the public docks, will also be done.

Card said he is developing a tender for the project and hopes the work will be complete by the end of September.



Sam Briggs, one of the attendants for the new weigh scale at Maple Lake landfill. *File.*

'No appetite' for plan

While mayor Liz Danielsen finds the prospect of a single-tier waste management system "interesting," she doesn't feel there's enough appetite at the County level to fully investigate.

Melissa Murray, the township's environmental manager, said a review, compiled for the County by Dillon Consulting Limited, was presented to the upper-tier April 10 and was now coming to each municipality for feedback. It will be discussed by County council May 22.

In it, Dillon presented three service delivery models – one administered by the County, another by a non-profit municipally-owned corporation on behalf of the County, and a

third handled by a coordinating committee.

Dysart et al was the first township to shoot down a single-tier waste system last month. Danielsen believes it won't be the last.

"County council was not entirely happy with the report. There were some factors that didn't come out... lots of financial information I sense members were looking for. Also, issues with liability and inequities," Danielsen said. "We've spent a lot of money at Maple Lake and still have a long life there. How would that impact us if we were required to take waste from other municipalities? Those questions weren't answered."

Council directed Murray to continue collaborating with waste management colleagues for future partnerships and efficiencies.

Bill 185 update

Planner, Sean O'Callaghan, said new housing legislation introduced by the Ontario government last month will have little impact in Algonquin Highlands.

Premier Doug Ford has touted Bill 185 as the most important piece of legislation the provincial government has passed in recent times to address the country's housing crisis. It aims to cut bureaucratic red tape with an overarching goal of building 1.5 million new homes in Ontario by 2031.

O'Callaghan says the document makes changes to 15 existing provincial policies, including the municipal, planning, and development charges acts. He said they're largely geared towards urban communities.

"Some things that are of note to us are

things like prohibiting third party appeals for official plan amendments and rezonings. That would mean the public not being able to appeal a decision of council," he said.

"They are also proposing to make pre-application consultations between municipalities and applicants voluntary, instead of mandatory, and remove refund provisions established [in 2021] that said if a decision is not made in a certain timeframe, a percentage of the application fee is returned," he added. "I don't see any significant impact for Algonquin Highlands."

(Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Mike Baker).

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MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- Join the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library to recognize International Museum Day for a special screening of Totem: The Return of the G'psgolox Pole (2003) at the Cultural Centre on Thursday, May 16 at 5:00 p.m. Admission is free, and all ages are welcome. For more info: <https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2024-05-16-1700-Totem-The-Return-of-the-Gpsgolox-Pole-Documentary>
- Season opening of the Minden Hills Museum, Heritage Village and Nature's Place on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Enjoy a cup of tea and some Victorian-era refreshments in the dining room of Bowron House. Take a guided tour around the village or explore early settler games and craft demonstrations. Visit with the exotic animals from Browning Reptiles from 12 – 2 p.m. Admission is by donation. The event will run rain or shine. For more info: <https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2024-05-18-1000-Minden-Hills-Museum-Heritage-Village-and-Natures-P>
- Connection and Response, an exhibit by conceptual artist Bruce Cull, will be on display until June 8 in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, 176 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden. Open Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Admission is by donation. For more info: <https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2024-04-04-1000-Connection-and-Response-An-Exhibit-by-Bruce-Cull>

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NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWNSHIP'S FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, June 13, 2024, during its Regular Council Meeting regarding Proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law.

The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON. Detailed information to follow next week.

Dated this 2nd day of May, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Vicki Bull, Clerk, 705-286-1260 Ext 515 E: vbull@mindenhills.ca

CALL FOR LOCHLIN COMMUNITY CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Township of Minden Hills is looking for two volunteers to participate as members on the Lochlin Community Centre Advisory Committee for the remaining (2023-2026) term of Council.

If you, or someone you know, are interested in participating on this committee, please download and submit a completed Advisory Committee Application Form visit www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom for full details.

Application deadline is Tuesday, May 21, 2024 by 12:00 noon.
For an Application Form or for more information, please contact Vicki Bull at vbull@mindenhills.ca, 705-286-1260 ext. 515 or Lisa Fitton at lfritton@mindenhills.ca, 705-286-1260 ext. 527.

REPORTING ISSUES – ROADS/MAINTENANCE NEEDS

Reporting issues such as road condition or maintenance needs can be done by calling 705-286-3144 from Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. After hours emergencies can be reported by calling 1-866-856-3247.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers) and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- May 30 – Regular Council Meeting
- June 13 – Regular Council Meeting
- June 27 – Regular Council Meeting
- July 25 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at <https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx>. Visit our website for more information.

WASTE DISPOSAL SITE SUMMER HOURS

Summer Hours are now in effect at our waste disposal sites (May 1 to September 30). A reminder that new hours started January 1, 2024. Please ask a Site Attendant during your next visit for a handout on the new site hours. The new site hours will be on your new waste disposal card that will be mailed with the final tax bills in June.

CREATE AND PLAY – RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Create and Play JR (5-8 years) and SR (9-12 years) Saturdays starting May 4, 2024. Registration is now open. To register please visit www.mindenhills.ca/recreation or in person at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS (HALF LOADS) LIFTED

Effective May 3, 2024, Spring Load Restrictions (half Loads) for Minden Hills have been lifted.



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Employers needed for fast-track trades

By Lisa Gervais

Starting this fall, Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students will be able to take part in a fast-track program to get into the trades.

However, for it to work, employers will have to commit to taking on apprentices, said Jason Morissette, the high school's co-op teacher.

The provincial government has announced that high school students who want a career in the trades will be able to spend up to 80 per cent of their time on training, and 20 per cent on academics, such as mandatory math and English classes.

Labour Minister David Piccini, during a May 1 press conference said, "we're helping to tackle the labour shortage by allowing motivated entrepreneurial students to get on a fast-track to a career in the skilled trades."

It means students in Grades 11 and 12 can start in the Focused Apprenticeship Skills Training (FAST) program. Between eight and 11 credits can be earned from trades training through co-op placements, while still needing math and English in Grade 11, and English in Grade 12.

Education minister Stephen Lecce said, "this is a significant increase in flexibility," giving students many choices.

TLDSB manager of communications services, Carolynne Bull, said the school board currently has a "thriving" Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) and will be implementing the OYAP-FAST stream in the 2025-2026 school year.

"OYAP-FAST will allow students in Grades 11 and 12 to participate in full-time apprenticeship learning through 8 to 11 co-op



Support Ontario Youth's Steve Dramnitzke at a past skilled trades job fair in Haliburton. *File.*

credits in the skilled trades while pursuing their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), including continuing to attend classes to earn compulsory and optional credits. During course selection in the 2024-2025 school year, students will have the option to choose this stream," she said.

Morissette likes the direction the province is going in.

"It allows a lot more student choice, and family choice, about their education. If I'm 16 years old, going into Grade 10 or 11, and I want to further my education in the skilled trades, then I'm not spending idle time in courses that aren't for me anymore."

He added while students may miss some

"broad spectrum" courses, "this program will be for select students who are driven and can find and sign a registered training agreement (RTA).

"This is going to take community social change as well. We need our adults to mentor and sign an RTA for this program to work. The student will need to have an apprenticeship or else they cannot do this program."

He said the students are not paid, employers do not have to hire students after co-op, and the school board takes care of the paperwork, and insurance for the students.

He sits on the Haliburton County Home Builders Association education committee.

"They really want partnerships. They really do see an aging demographic and they see that a lot of students aren't getting exposed enough to skilled trades or they're not understanding you can really make a good living, with incredible entrepreneurial opportunities.

"The only people who can mentor our young people about that is the people in our community that understand that."

Morissette added this program is post-secondary education, and he would like to see the stigma around skilled trades finally eradicated. "It takes a village to raise our kids."

Teeny Tiny summit coming up

On June 6, The County of Haliburton is partnering with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) for a 'teeny tiny summit.'

The event is an opportunity to learn from expert volunteers and active community leaders, and to network with like-minded

individuals who share a passion for teeny tiny places.

"Whether you are a community leader, a rural volunteer, a community economic developer or an entrepreneur, the teeny tiny summit is right for you," County tourism said.

Teeny tiny summits were started in 2016 as a forum to discuss scale-appropriate

economic development strategies for Ontario's smallest communities.

Since that time, more than 2,750 people have participated from across Ontario. Teeny tiny summits share practical examples, lessons learned and community economic development tactics that are scale-appropriate for Ontario's smallest communities.

The event will take place at the Minden Community Centre and feature keynote speaker Peter Kenyon talking about what builds great communities.

Local organizations and guest speakers will also take part. The event runs from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and will include snacks and a lunch. The public can register through myhaliburtonhighlands.com. (Lisa Gervais).



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Recent retirees and newbies to volunteer

By Kimberly Strong-Knight

The Haliburton Highlands Volunteer Fair was a success, according to organizer Brigitte Gebauer.

"Everybody was quite pleased," she said. "We had a lot more than last year who were interested in volunteering, which is great."

With more than 30 organizations represented at the fair, there was a lot to choose from, and many choices to make. Sheila Kitchen is retired and wanted to find something to fill some days. "It is a bit overwhelming, so many organizations looking for volunteers in such a small community," she said.

The target group that Gebauer was hoping to engage was exactly who came out. "Recent retirees and newcomers to the area was the cohort we were looking to target, and that was the majority that came out."

There were other demographics represented in the attendees, such as Alyssa Gordon. "I am a stay-at-home mom with three boys, and I told my husband that I needed to find something to get me out of the house every once in a while, which is why I came to this event," she said. She, too, was surprised at the number of organizations and the variety of choice.

Vanessa Koot, from Big Brothers Big Sisters, said the organization is always looking for volunteers/mentors. "We have a community-based program and a school-based program that run about an hour a week." She said it is all about building dependable relationships with young people. "We work with grades 4 – 8 and it does make a difference in their

academics, their social skills and helps to lower stress they may be feeling either from home or school or other factors."

A new group, just formed last year, were looking for volunteers interested in all things apple. Luba Cargill and Vicki Sisson from the Apple Tree Identification Project (ATIP) explained that it was all about identifying, preserving, and promoting apple trees and the significance of them in Haliburton County.

"We started last year by identifying 10 locations of beautiful old orchards and apple trees and it has grown to 177 now," said Cargill. "We have apple blossom tours throughout the County, and we are presenting our first symposium later this month." They also have a variety of other activities they are involved with such as working with arborists and master gardeners to not only take care of the existing trees but to plant new ones so locally grown produce is available.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust representative, Christel Furniss, said they were looking for volunteer land monitors to walk the trails and report condition, etc., in order to maintain the upkeep. "We have had good interest so far," said Furniss. "People can volunteer for a variety of different things, like fundraising, education committees."

Many of the people who attended the fair were looking to get more involved in their community and agreed that volunteering is a good way to do just that. "It is a great way to help," said Gayle Clements, who already volunteers with SIRCH Community Services in Haliburton. "So many things depend on volunteers to keep running."



Top: Christel Furniss representing Haliburton Highlands Land Trust. Above: Vicki Sisson and Luba Cargill spear-headed the Apple Tree Identification Program. Photos by Kimberly Strong-Knight.

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Danielsen: no solution to launch

By Mike Baker

Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen has reiterated her council's commitment to finding a long-term solution for residents requiring boat access to the Boshkung chain of lakes, though warned there will be no quick fix.

Those with property on Twelve Mile, Boshkung, and Little Boshkung lakes have been left scrambling after it was announced last month Wedgewood RPM – the only marina with full-service boat launching capabilities in the area – is closing.

RPM Marinas general manager, Cheryl Downs, said the Wedgewood property has been sold and will not be operating as a marina under the new ownership. While people will be able to use the facility to get their boats on the water, it won't be open in the fall for boat removal and storage.

The three impacted lake associations have appealed to Algonquin Highlands and Minden Hills townships to intervene.

Chris Card, Algonquin Highlands' parks, recreation, and trails manager, told council May 2 there aren't many options for local staff to pursue. Algonquin Highlands operates a nearby boat launch on Hwy. 118, into Little Boshkung Lake. Card said the water is very shallow at the site, making it unsuitable for most large boats.

He said dredging the site – excavating sand and other surface materials underwater – would likely be too expensive, in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, and take several years to complete. Card couldn't say for sure, even after all the effort, whether it would work.

"In my opinion, just doing a quick assessment of the soil conditions there, it seems unlikely," Card said. "It's a large sandbar. The shallow area is a couple of football fields in size... you'd need to dredge 200 metres into the lake, and even then, I think the sand would fill right back in."

He recommended council hire a consultant to provide a more professional opinion, which they agreed to do at a cost of up to \$5,000.

Danielsen said she has had several discussions with Minden Hills counterpart Bob Carter. She believes the townships can work together to address the issue. One suggestion is for them to work with another resort property on Twelve Mile Lake – Twin Lakes Resort, which was recently taken over by new owners – to install a new launch.

Card indicated this was likely the most cost-effective way of dealing with the issue, while Danielsen added it was the only solution she could envisage being ready by the fall.

"Steps are being taken to find out what the legal implications are, and what the access possibilities would be. Right now, [Minden] is agreeable in assessing that as a possibility," Card said.

Minden Hills owns a stretch of shoreline along Twelve Mile, though it can only be accessed by private property. Minden council would need to authorize any deal.

No way to intervene

Algonquin Highlands coun. Sabrina Richards asked if staff had been in touch with the new owners of the Wedgewood RPM property to see if they'd be willing to keep the launch in until fall. Danielsen said the township still doesn't know who the new owner is.

"This has come out of nowhere that we have been put into this position," Richards said, asking if the township had any authority to reverse the sale, or negotiate a new deal. She suggested the launch area be removed from any agreement, and that Algonquin Highlands and Minden Hills submit a joint bid to buy it.

CAO Angie Bird advised against, saying there would likely be legal ramifications. Even if successful, she said that option would be "a long way down the road."



The Wedgewood RPM property has been sold and is to close this summer. *File.*

Card suggested if the township was considering purchasing private property to house a new launch, there may be other areas on the lake chain to consider.

Danielsen said council needed to be mindful of its other projects and priorities, particularly surrounding docks and landings.

"We have other lakes that have no access points. I know we're going to hear 'well if you're going to develop a new private boat launch there, what about us?' and it's a really good question," Danielsen said. "We just don't know what's going to be feasible."

"There's a real anxiety from people for us to do something... there's so many steps involved in trying to do any kind of upgrade at the Hwy. 118 site. It just won't happen this year. Things don't work that quickly in a municipality with the levels of approval we need to get," she added. "I don't see a solution being in place by this fall."

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We love you, moms

Hands up if this column is the “oh sh... oot” warning you’ve been waiting for that Mother’s Day is right around the corner?

Don’t worry – it happens to the best of us. The fact I’m ready several days out this year is a minor miracle, and, admittedly, may have more to do with me wanting to prove my mother-in-law wrong than it does turning over a new leaf on the preparedness scale. But that’s OK. Rome wasn’t built in a day.

Mother’s Day has always been a big deal for me. My mom and dad separated when I was young. Since then, my mom has been the one constant, the role model in my life. She juggled raising three kids alone with a hectic full-time job. She always found the time to cook our meals, do our laundry, clean the house, and take us to soccer practices.

She was always a super mom. And I was never afraid to tell her that.

While I’ll still take the time to say a few nice things again, and maybe treat her to a nice meal out, Mother’s Day has taken on an entirely new meaning this year. That’s what happens when you start having kids of your own.

Over the past 18 months, I’ve watched my wife struggle through daily bouts of morning sickness, scream pain-induced obscenities through a frankly torturous labour, and care for and look after our daughter with a smile

on her face and love in her heart – despite only getting a couple hours sleep per night for weeks on end.

So, yeah, now I have a second super mom in my life.

I wanted to go all-out for the first Mother’s Day. Buying a cute gift and regurgitating a cringeworthy poem in a dollar store card wasn’t going to cut it.

I got to work planning. I’m not sure I’d go as far as to call it the perfect day, but I’m confident I’ve done enough legwork that the effort, if not the execution, will likely be well appreciated.

To start, the easiest thing on this list – let them sleep.

When you hear them stir, instead of surprising them with breakfast in bed, deliver a piece of paper with two or three dishes to choose from. Or better yet, have your little one – human or fur baby – do the deed instead. For this to work, you must be able to put bread in a toaster without burning it. If that’s beyond you, save her taste buds and treat her to breakfast out. Of course, you’ll have remembered to make a reservation.

Map out your day. Have an itinerary of things to do. Share this with your guest of honour. It’s a lot more fun if they’re excited.

This is where you get to personalize your offerings. Think of a few things your wife/

mom enjoys and find a way to DIY it. Me? I’m turning my basement into a movie theatre, which will have anything my wife wants. There will be snacks. And I will be on-hand to serve them.

I almost forgot about gifts... this isn’t so much of a must-have. Let’s face it, our wallets have taken a collective, relentless battering for some time now. But don’t fear, homemade gifts from the heart are to moms what Superbowl – or in my case, World Cup final – tickets are to dads. Again, apply a shred of originality, have your little one write their name, or scribble on it, and tah-dah! Probably the best gift she’s ever gotten. Do it right and she might even cry.

Above all else though, take the time to let your mother, partner, or whoever, know just how much you love, appreciate, and value them for all they do. It’s the kind of thing we should do every day, but don’t.

Today, of all days, it’s important to go that extra mile. Love you, mom. Love you, Laurie.



By Mike Baker

JOURNEYING TOGETHER

Discover the fountain of youth

Volunteering; Is it to support others or an opportunity to support your own health? Or is it, in fact, the secret to discovering the fountain of youth?

Have you noticed we are emerging from weeks of volunteer recruitment from all service-related sectors, including the ones I’m part of? It has become a community dynamic. The call for free labour. The endless quest to fill the ever-expanding gaps in all areas of our service-based institutions. The need for free human energy interaction, to support learning, healing and wellness. The call to volunteering.

The last thing I wanted to do when I was working was to come home, turn around, and go out again, to volunteer, with, or in, anything. “Why should I have to work all day and then commit to something that I’m not that interested in? Now, well into retirement, I have discovered the offering of your energy services, to support others, is, in fact, really about finding your passion for living, and supporting yourself.

For me, this started when I reached out for answers regarding elder home care for my mother and ended up becoming vey frustrated at the prospect due to the total collapse of home care in our area and province.

My reaching out was directed to volunteer opportunities, supporting the community, and making a difference, which led to finding my voice. It was like going to work at the best job you could ever create, with the biggest perk being setting the guidelines of when and when not to participate and when to move on.

I can’t help but share this because it seems linked to the fountain of youth; shifting the context of your experience from frustration of “work” to “pleasure.” When you’re engaged in something that impassions you, you will not only get out of your head and lose yourself, but more importantly, you will begin to find yourself. Instead of looking at “getting out” and doing something, you actually are engaging in something that inspires you. You end up gaining energy and become more excited and fulfilled. Yet again I have been surprised. At 70, I have such drive and passion.

When I’m following my passion, I am being fed energy and feel younger. I believe we have all experienced that thrill of “being” at some point in time. Never more important then now at this point in life, whatever age that is for you.

Now, how did this manifest? Coming together with like-minded people. Getting

involved with my committee group, was like a lightning charge. When it starts, and as you continue to be involved, the energy starts to attract more energy and roll, building until it’s expelled. Then, you participate and search it out again, and you discover, by now, it is searching for you. It’s starting to find you. You’re engaged in life. You’re moving and thinking and living and growing. At 70, you start to feel like you have more energy, drive and self worth then ever before. The fact that you have the freedom to choose opens up a whole new world of human experiences.

We all share in the healing of ourselves and each other within a community. As a human being, it’s important to be engaged in something with other human beings. We are social creatures and need to be actively connected to others for our balanced wellness. The energies that we share sustain and inspire us.

So, if you haven’t experienced it, try it on. Follow or discover your passion through volunteering. The community needs you. More importantly, you need the community. You cannot live or heal in isolation.



By Peter Ferri

HAVE AN OPINION?

Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca (300 words max)

LETTERS

Not good business

Dear editor,

Last week, Lisa Gervais reported on the introduction of the Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) and Dysart et al’s expressed interest to “dare to be different” and not adopt the four per cent ‘industry standard that 95 per cent of municipalities in Ontario have chosen.

Instead, Dysart is going to implement the MAT at two per cent, or half the amount that would come back to the municipality.

Given that the MAT gets passed on to the renter, who does not live in the area, Dysart may be ‘daring to be different’, but they are making decisions that are not in the best interest of their taxpayers.

Councillor Pat Casey voted with mayor Murray Fearrey, claiming that money is often reinvested into the community via cottage renovations and downtown shopping. Once again, when the MAT gets passed on to the renters to pay, homeowners don’t have an extra two per cent that they will be able to inject back into the local economy.

In a conversation with *The Highlander*, prior to the election, Fearrey claimed that “he wants to see the County adopt a business-like approach to short-term rentals. He continued, “a lot of people are buying properties now for investments. They’re renting them out 52 weeks of the year if they can, so it’s basically a business,” Fearrey said. “It’s not rocket science. Make it so that you need a license to run an Airbnb, and if anyone goes against the license, or operates without one, make the fines substantial enough that they take notice.” (*The Highlander*, July 21, 2022).

Apparently, fining constituents is fine, but taxing short-term rental participants isn’t. It is not good business to not take advantage of an additional two per cent revenue.

It is interesting to note the direction that Dysart et al has taken with recent files, in contrast to the recommendation to the service delivery of programs in the County. The Dysart et al silo is alive and well. It is a shame that clear recommendations by staff are not supported by Dysart council, and that there appears to be a need to “dare to be different” than the other municipalities in Haliburton County. As a taxpayer, it makes you wonder if there is a clear or fresh vision for Dysart.

Greg Freeman
Dysart et al

Dysart two per cent MAT

Dear editor,

As permanent residents affected by short-term rentals, we are very appreciative of Dysart et al council, and staff, to finally license and regulate them.

However, it would also be appreciated if staff could have given more information to the council regarding the MAT, so as to avoid misconceptions resulting in poor decisions.

Mayor Murray Fearrey says, “I just don’t know how much tax we want to pile onto people.” Coun. Pat Casey says, “we don’t want to kill the entrepreneurial spirit of someone making a dollar.”

STR owners/operators do not pay this tax,

the renters do and it is added to their invoice.

In many municipalities, for example, Airbnb automatically adds the amount to guests’ invoices and remits to the municipality.

I would add that County economic development and tourism director, Scott Ovell’s comment that the City of Niagara Falls charges two percent MAT reflects quite a different tax base considering this tax applies to hotels, motels, B & B’s as well as short-term rentals.

As Dysart taxpayers, a disappointing decision.

Phil and Patti Harknett
Dysart et al

Keep the arts strong

Dear editor,

Just a thought.

I do regret the loss of the Ethel Curry Gallery. It allowed the quality display and purchase of so many mediums and artists.

Having said that; the support and encouragement of our local artists need attention.

There have been a lot of discussions about short-term rentals. Let’s support each other. Cottage owners, renters, please consider promoting more local artistic talent in your décor.

Please use local artist products to purpose and decorate: a painting, a wooden bowl, wooden paddle or ceramic cup. In that nook, create an interesting opportunity for a Haliburton vacation memory.

Give a welcome or thank you gift locally made. Let us encourage our local artists in lieu of mass-produced duplicates.

Not to be excluded; local restaurants, let’s display/use local products and display for purchase those special art products that exude the fabulous Haliburton Highlands.

Let’s keep the arts strong in Haliburton County.

Jeanette King
Dysart et al

The good and the bad

Dear editor,

Every week, I go straight for the crossword and keep at it until it’s completed.

But in the April 18 edition, the rightmost column of letters in the solution was omitted.

This oversight was compensated for, in my view, printing my picture on page 24. If you wish to enhance future issues, I’m happy to smile.

Malcolm O’Brien
Haliburton

Have a photo of the week?
Send your pictures to
editor@thehighlander.ca

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Vern Therien sent in this photo of the week from Haliburton Forest.



A little hot mustard

Ctrl-ART-Del brought Kat Sandler’s play, *Mustard*, to the stage of the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion May 2-4. A youth cast of Chris Chumbley, Christine Carr, Olivia Humphries, Jessica McCready-DeBruin, Valerie Zagorska and Brody Bolger brought the drama to life, backed by a large creative team. Next up for the theatre troupe is *The Wolves* by Sarah Delappe, at the Haliburton Legion Aug. 15-17.

Above: Chris Chumbley played Mustard in Ctrl-ART-Del’s performance of Kat Sandler’s play. Right: Jessica McCready DeBruin and Valerie Zagorska enter as Leslie and Bug. Photos by Lisa Gervais.





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Bringing a British pantomime to the stage

By Lisa Gervais

High school drama teacher Meghan Mardus and her students are looking forward to bringing a British pantomime to the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion next week.

They will stage *Camelot* May 15 and 16.

Mardus said the theatre style is not as widely-known in Canada, though does exist, “but it’s really popular over in the U.K.”

She got to know it when she was living in Germany, teaching at a British school for many years.

“It’s just a fun style of theatre. You take a well-known story, in our case, you’ve got King Arthur before he’s a king, Prince Arthur meeting Guinevere. They’re meant to get married and then it all starts going awry. So, it takes a traditional story and turns it on its head.”

She said pantomime has slapstick and local humour. The license agreement with the script allows for them to change the script and insert local jokes and references. “Which is really fun. And it has singing, and dancing.”

They are also following the tradition with pantomime, where the main male character is played by a girl and the main female character played by a boy.

“This tradition goes back hundreds of years... gender-bending and switching genders in theatre has been part of theatre for as long as it has existed, really,” Mardus said. “We’re following that tradition, too.”

She said British panto also includes a lot of audience interaction, and a big “stuffie” character. “Audiences will have great fun with call and response cues, and booing the baddies. And Big Red, our school mascot, is a principal character.”

Mardus added, “It’s the type of show that kids can enjoy. We’re recommending it for ages seven and up but parents know their own kids. If their kid is younger, but can still handle a show that’s an hour and a half, they’re welcome to come.” Of course, it will suit teens and adults as well, she said.

“It’s silly. It’s genuinely so funny and this crew of students, their work with comedy, is fantastic.”

Mardus said a lot of the faces will be familiar as many were in the fall production of *Clue*.

She added it isn’t just those on stage who have been working hard. She said they had recruited Grade 9 and 10 students to help out with production, from sets to backstage, lighting and sound.

The drama and French teacher is also stretching herself. It’s her first time stage managing. She’ll be in the booth, directing, producing, has sewn costumes and done choreography. “It’s so much fun... a huge amount of work, but it’s been such a wonderful, learning opportunity for me. I’m just loving it.”

In keeping with the British theme of the night, Mardus said Grade 12 student Kaelem Little has designed a menu for intermission,



The cast of *Camelot* during a rehearsal. Submitted.

which will include shortbread, rice pudding, Chelsea buns, and angel cake.

Mardus said it was a delight teaching the students about British idioms and phrasing. For example, some did not know a British dress was referred to as a frock.

She can’t wait for her students to bring it all together on stage. “These drama and music

experiences for me were just so formative in high school and it honestly just brings me joy to see students having similar experiences here.”

Performances are May 15 and 16, starting at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are available via school cash online (\$10 advanced for adults, \$5 for children) or by donation at the door.

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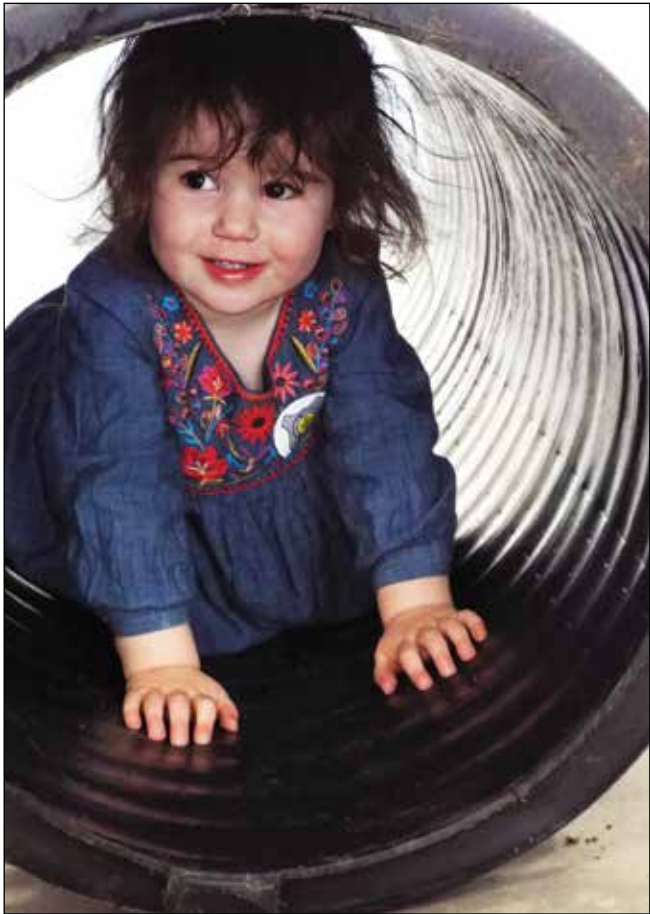
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The sky's no limit

The force was with the Stanhope Municipal Airport committee May 4, as the aviation community and friends flocked to fly-in day. The event is designed to educate the community about flying. The fly-in saw pilots bring all kinds of aircraft to the Highlands. There were some classic planes, including a 1995 Antonov An-2, CT-156 Harvard II – used by the Royal Canadian Air Force for training during the Second World War, and old-school single engine planes such as the de Havilland Canada's DHC-1 Chipmunk and DHC-2 Beaver. There were model airplanes, helicopter rides, MNRF staff and Algonquin Highlands firefighters. "Events at the airport are making a comeback after being on pause since the pandemic. We are committed to offering a welcome and fun space for local families and visitors to enjoy, while promoting aviation to our youth," mayor Liz Danielsen said.

Top left: Helicopter taking off. Top right: Wiley and Sawyer were attracted to the model airplanes. Middle left: Control panel. Middle centre: Royal Canadian Air Force seal. Middle right: A 'flying monkey' about to take off. Above: The MNRF were on hand for the event. Right: Emerson Turner came dressed as Princess Leia, as it was May 4 – may the force be with you. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*



Above left: Two-year-old Kacey Reynolds looks like he can't wait until he is big enough for his feet to reach the floor of this ATV. Above middle: Crawling through small spaces seems to be pretty easy for two-year-old Nila Pascoe. Above right: Agnes Reid isn't about to let the kids have all the fun with some help from volunteer firefighter Jarrod Lawrance.
Photos by Kimberly Strong-Knight.

First responders share knowledge

By Kimberly Strong-Knight

First recognized in Ontario in 2013, First Responders Day, celebrated all over the province, is a chance to meet those 'on the job' in the community, and learn more about the critical work they do every day. Sue Tiffin, community safety and well-being plan coordinator for the County of Haliburton, worked with the EMS, OPP, and

fire to organize the day on April 1. She said, "it is a chance to remember that they are out there, and an opportunity for people to see what it is like in the back of an ambulance so not to be scared if ever they need the service." An all-ages event, children got to climb all over fire engines while adults such as Scott Boesveld – who was with his wife and four

children - checked out an ambulance. "It is really cool, I liked to see them not in an emergency." The first responders were having just as much fun. Jarrod Lawrance, who just completed his training as a volunteer firefighter said, "it is great to see the kids having fun and getting to meet some people from the community at an event like this."

Tiffin believes it is important for the community to get together and learn what can be done to be pro-active and how to put in place preventative measures before a crisis happens. "It is a chance for the first responders to share their knowledge and experience with the community, and for people to get out and thank them for the work they do."

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NEW LISTING



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(705)
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Thoughtful Gift Ideas for Mother's Day

To show your mom just how much she means to you, choose a Mother's Day gift that reflects her interests and passions. As you're looking for the perfect gift, consider these thoughtful ideas that will touch her heart.

PERSONALIZED GIFTS

Show your mom how much she means to you by giving a gift uniquely tailored to her. Consider a personalized photo album filled with special memories or a custom-made piece of jewelry with her initials or birthstone. If your mom enjoys cooking, a personalized apron or cutting board with her name or a special message can be a winning gift. For the mom who loves to relax, a monogrammed robe or customized spa gift set allows her to pamper herself. You can also include a handwritten note or heartfelt letter expressing your love and appreciation.

DIY GIFTS

Handmade gifts often hold special sentimental value and show you put thought and effort into creating something unique just for your mom. You could try making a homemade candle or bath bombs, a hand-painted picture frame or a personalized scrapbook filled with cherished memories. Alternatively, you could

bake her favorite treats, prepare a special breakfast in bed or create a customized coupon book with vouchers for things like a homemade dinner or day of pampering. Get creative and have fun with your DIY gift – your mom is sure to appreciate the sentiment behind it.

EXPERIENCE GIFTS

Sometimes the best gifts are experiences rather than physical items. Plan a day trip to her favorite destination, book a spa day for her to relax and unwind or arrange a cooking class where she can learn new recipes. You could also surprise her with tickets to a concert, theater show or sporting event.

PRACTICAL GIFTS

For busy moms who are always on the go, practical gifts can be lifesavers. Consider getting your mom a stylish yet functional tote bag or a backpack to carry all her essentials. You could also give her a smartwatch or fitness tracker to help her stay organized and track her health and fitness goals. A subscription to a meal delivery service or gifting kitchen gadgets or appliances that make meal preparation easier and more efficient are also useful ideas. *(Family Features).*

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TheHighlander



Chris and Matt Duchene during the Star's mom trip to Nashville. *Dallas Stars on X.*

A hockey mom for 28 years and counting

By Lisa Gervais

Chris Duchene has been a hockey mom for 28 years and counting.

Speaking from Dallas, Texas - the day after watching her son, Matt, and his team, clinch their first-round series over the Las Vegas Golden Knights - Duchene said, "oh my gosh, it was unbelievable.

"With about 10 minutes to go, we were up by one, and I thought 'I don't know if I can make it'. I just want it to be over'," she said of the tension in the third period of the game seven decider.

She recalled how Marg Nicholls, the mother of Bernie Nicholls, would attend the Coby Islanders' tournament at the end of the year to watch her boys play "and when it was a close game, she would go and hide in the bathroom. She couldn't watch it."

On May 5, Duchene joked she was like Marg - whom she considers to be one of the best hockey moms in Haliburton County. "I was close to pulling a Marg and going into the bathroom."

Dallas won the game 2-1 and the series four games to three.

She and husband, Vince Duchene, were staying in Dallas for the Stars two home games against the Colorado Avalanche May 7 and 9. She said after knocking off last year's champs, she felt the Stars were now hoping to go on to compete for Lord Stanley's Cup.

Chris usually tries to stay under the radar. She was in

Dallas for the Star's mom's trip the week of Feb. 12 and did appear on ESPN with Matt.

While she is pleased Matt and his team have made it into the second round of the playoffs, she said "as a mom, you are proud, but your touchstone all the time is just 'is he happy'? That's always been the number one concern."

She noted her son had been playing hockey since the age of five and is now 33.

"I can probably count on one hand the number of times I've missed him play." That has included late nights when he played in Colorado and its later time zone.

"You just kind of feel like you're trying to be supportive even though he is a grown man with a family. He has a wife. He doesn't so much need mom any more. But you feel like you need to be there, should he ever need to reach out, or should he want you all of a sudden."

Chris said Matt has great support from his wife, Ashley, and other people in his life, too. He is also the father of three children himself.

"We're there for him when he needs us. He does lean on us. I think he was super happy we were here for (gave seven)," Chris said.

Matt says he gets a lot of strength from his mom. "I think I've gotten my drive to succeed and passion for what I do directly from my mom."

He added, "she's always there when I need her to be, and need to talk. She's a great role model for me in her day-to-day life and how she handles herself. I love her a lot and I've always had a good relationship with her."

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Tee time for Highlands lady golfers

By Mike Baker

Canada’s largest women’s-only golf club is looking to get even bigger ahead of the new summer season.

The Haliburton Highlands Women’s Golf League will return to play later this month. An ice breaker has been scheduled at the Haliburton Legion May 10 at 7 p.m. President, Dale Rider, said it’s an opportunity for people to learn about the group, which boasts between 130 and 150 members.

“Golf is a lot of fun. It’s a very social sport, and a great way for people to stay active,” Rider said. “I’ve made a lot of friends, a lot of connections through our league. I tell any lady I meet that if they enjoy a good time, then they need to get involved, because that’s what we’re all about.”

The local women’s club was formed in 1995 by Kathy Purc and Kelly Moore. They established a nine-hole league that encouraged players, both new and experienced, to come together for some relaxed, yet competitive, play. Suddenly, women in the County had a different sort of tee time to look forward to on warm afternoons.

Riina Ennist then started an 18-hole league in 2000 that’s still going strong.

“The 18-hole group is all handicapped, so it’s a little more serious. But we have lots of good players who opt to play nine-hole only too,” Rider said.

The nine-holers play on Tuesday

afternoons, with tee times starting at 3 p.m., and the 18-hole players meet on Wednesdays for a 2 p.m. start. Rider says the nine-hole group plays at five courses across the County, with the 18-hole group sticking to courses at Blairhampton Golf Club and Pinestone Resort.

Membership for players looking to compete in one league is \$40 annually, or \$50 to play in both. This does not cover the cost of golfing – though Rider says playing fees are heavily reduced for league members.

She said all new members are assigned to one of four team captains, who each organize different themed events and fun activities – on top of regular golf play – through the season.

Rider said play will begin later this month and conclude in late September. The group comes together for a season-ending banquet and awards night in the fall.

“We have lots of fun – for many golf fans, the Ryder Cup is one of the most exciting tournaments and we do something similar here each year where we break into different teams and compete. We dress up on holidays, like Canada Day. Everybody gets into the spirit,” Rider said.

And while it wasn’t the league’s aim to be a national pioneer, Rider said it’s a nice touch knowing Haliburton County, of all places, is home to the country’s largest recognized collection of golf-playing women.

“That’s something a few of our members have wondered about, so we reached out to



The Haliburton Highlands Women’s Golf League is the largest group in Canada. *Submitted.*

Golf Canada. They told us not only are we the largest women’s-only golf league in the country, we’re also unique because we’re the only league that plays multiple courses,” she said. “It’s a great distinction – so,

anyone who wants to be a part of something unmatched anywhere else in Canada, come check us out.”

For more information, visit hhwgl.ca.

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May 10 6:30 - 8

OR on ZOOM

May 14 6:30 - 8

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explore map

COMING SOON

Be on the lookout next week for the County of Haliburton Explore Map. Don't miss out on these handy little maps that help explore Haliburton County!



Getting chilly for charity

Sue Waite, Jean Munroe, Max Henstra and Amanda Federchuk leap off a dock on Quailrun Lane in Minden May 4 during the Jump in the Lake challenge. The Minden Community Food Centre team raised \$3,100 for the food bank. Their challengers, at Central Food Network, brought in \$8,200. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*



'Amazing' community something to quack about

The 16th annual Ducks Unlimited Minden dinner and auction was held May 3 at the Haliburton Legion. “We are reminded just how amazing our local community is when events like this are planned and executed,” Cheryl Smith Hamilton said. She thanked committee members Brian and Mary Hamilton, Jeff Martin, Kathy Mason Martin, Jeff Black, and Christina Cox-Black. She then gave a shout-out to Curry Chevrolet Buick GMC Limited’s crew for helping to get the hall set up, the Legion for hosting the event, and Till Death BBQ for the catering. She then lauded their “amazing donors” with a list of nearly 80.

Mike Hamilton, Cheryl Smith Hamilton and Jeff Martin greet arrivals. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

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EVENTS

May 10 and 11, noon to 4 p.m.
Rails End Gallery invites you to join 'Grounds for Goodness' for a series of workshops, storytelling sessions, and collaborative art-making activities designed to make you reflect on moments of goodness in your life and transform those stories into living works of art. This event is free, all are welcome. Open to adults, teens, and children (with a caregiver) for drop-in art making and facilitated events. Ruth Howard will lead an introductory discussion May 10 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

May 10, 12:30 to 2 p.m.
Homeschoolers and their families are invited to the Stanhope branch of the Haliburton County Public Library for time to collaborate and socialize. Check out the library's resources, tech toys, and craft table before heading to the park.

May 11 and 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Visit Eagle Glass Studios for an 'Apple Blossom Tour' event. Try amazing apple tarts from our outdoor wood oven, available by donation. The gardens and glass studio will also be open. For more information, visit glasseaglestudios.wordpress.com.

May 11, 9:30 a.m.
The Haliburton County Snowmobile Association is hosting its annual general meeting at the Haliburton Legion. There will be an election for new directors. Come and meet the team. Everyone welcome. For more information, contact 705-457-4263 or info@hcsa.ca.

May 11, 10 a.m. to noon.
Join Belinda Gallagher and Michele Swyer to explore the woods and fields of Barnum Creek Nature Reserve. We'll hike approximately two to three kilometres of trails, learn about the sustainable harvesting of leeks, and observe many spring wildflowers. Admission by donation. Registration required through haliburtonlandtrust.ca, or by calling 705-457-3700.

May 11, 11 a.m.
Create bee retreats and suncatchers you can bring home to celebrate your 'Queen Bees' in your life at the Wilberforce branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. All ages are welcome. No registration required.

May 14, 7 p.m.
Environment Haliburton! is hosting its next enviro-cafe, focusing on 'The Right to Repair', presented by Dr. Natasha Tusikov, a professor at York University. Learn about the possibilities and limitations of this movement as an environmentally sustainable means to reduce our growing volumes of digital waste. Q&A session to follow. Register at environmenthaliburton.org.

May 14, 7:30 p.m.
A discussion with Kate Hall, health promoter with the HKPR district health unit, on how a community can respond to the drug poisoning crisis. Preceded by music with George Porter and Dave Bathe. Taking place in the Schofield Room at the Haliburton Legion. Open to all, no admission charge, light refreshments provided. Sponsored by the Baha'i community of Haliburton County.

May 16, 5 p.m.
Celebrate International Museum Day with a special screening of 'Totem: The Return of the G'psgolox Pole' at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. The documentary chronicles the heartfelt journey of the Haisla people of British Columbia who reclaimed a sacred totem pole years after it had been taken from their community. All are welcome.

Have a non-profit event you want advertised?
email mike@thehighlander.ca.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton weekly activities
Mondays: Bridge at 1 p.m. in the Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts 7 p.m.
Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30-9 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, main hall. Bingo is back, featuring a brand new machine. There's a \$1,000 jackpot on the first Wednesday of the month.
Thursdays: General meeting third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. & ladies auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw, five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets \$2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC. Friday fun darts 4:30 p.m. onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 draw 4 p.m. Tickets \$1 each, available in the Clubroom.

Clubroom hours: Mon 3-6 p.m., Tues 3-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m. & Sat 3-6 p.m.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for rental information call Cheryl Waller at 905- 447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com/facility-rentals. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 519 Cobocok
Second Monday of the month: General meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesdays: Euchre - 1 p.m. Open Darts - 7 p.m.
First Wednesday of the month: Big Buck Bid Euchre from 11 a.m. \$15 per person.
Saturdays: Meat Roll at 3 p.m.

May 18: 2 p.m. Elimination draw, Grand prize is \$600. Tickets are \$10. BBQ and live entertainment throughout the day.
For more information contact Legion 705-454-8127

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce
May 9: HHHS drop-in 10 a.m. -1 p.m. open 2-6 p.m.
May 10: Senior's 55+ lunch noon - open 2-9 p.m. Wings/jam 5-8 p.m.
May 11: Open 2-6 p.m. - house league darts 2-6 p.m. - meat draw 3 p.m.
May 12-14: Closed
May 15: Open 2-6 p.m. darts 2 p.m.

Upcoming event: Karaoke night, May 18 from 8 p.m. to midnight. Come out and have some old fashioned fun.

If you are planning an event, our Ladies Auxiliary would be pleased to cater. Please call the branch at 705-448-2221 to arrange your event.

Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden
Monday - Thursday: Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' Tuesday.
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OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of
Beno Luna

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Tuesday morning, April 30, 2024 in his 94th year. Beloved son of the late Ricardo (Harry) & Rosa Luna. Cherished brother of Miria and Flora Luna. Also lovingly remembered by his many cousins. Beno worked for Ontario Hydro for five years and then General Motors for over thirty one years. He loved the family farm and returned home on weekends to help his parents. Beno returned to the Haliburton Highlands following his retirement in 1987. He loved the outdoors and worked hard maintaining the property. He was an active member of St. Anthony's of Padua Church and was a founding member of the Knights of Columbus Council 12326.

Visitation & Mass of Christian Burial

Friends and family are invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Monday afternoon, May 6, 2024 from 2 until 4 p.m. A Funeral Mass of Christian Burial will take place at **ST. ANTHONY'S OF PADUA CHURCH** 27 Victoria St. Haliburton, Ontario on Tuesday afternoon, May 7, 2024 at 12 o'clock (Noon). Interment St. Anthony of Padua Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations to St. Anthony's of Padua Church would be appreciated by the family.



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1	A	B	C	S		5	A	R	T		8	C	O	L	O	U	R			
14	R	E	L	O		15	G	O	O		16	A	R	O	U	S	E			
17	K	E	E	N		18	O	U	T	19	F	R	A	N	G	E				
	20	Q	A	N	21	D		22	N	E	D			23	C	O	D			
24	P	U	R	E	A	N	D	S	I	26	M	P	L	E						
29	R	A	N	T	S	A	T		30	N	E	A	T							
31	O	L	E	S		32	R	W	33	Y		34	O	W	E	35	D	O	N	37
38	N	T	S		39	B	R	O	40	W	N		41	A	V	O				
42	G	O	S	43	O	L	O		44	S	C	I		45	E	L	E	M		
				46	Y	E	W	47	S	48	O	N	49	G	U	A	R	D		
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52	I	F	I					54	O	W	N		55	S	O	L	I			
56	S	E	P	A	R	A	T	I	O	N	60			61	P	A	D	S	62	
63	E	R	O	D	E	D		64	S	R	I			65	O	M	I	T		
66	E	N	D	O	W	S		67	H	S	N			68	P	A	T	E		

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

1	R	A	W	D	A	T	A		8	S	I	A		11	P	E	P		
14	A	D	H	E	R	E	S		15	I	S	P		16	A	H	A		
17	D	O	O	V	E	R	S		18	G	E	T		19	I	N	O	N	
20	A	R	M	I	N		21	22	E	N	E		23	N	E	W	S		
24	R	E	P	L	A	N		25		26	R	E	I	N	S				
28	S	S	S			29	30	I	H	A	D	T	O		31	32	33		
					34	35	G	N	A	W	S		36	37	P	R	E	G	O
38	39	40	S	T	A	S	Y		41	42	B	R	U	I	S	E	R		
43	L	I	N	G	O			44	C	L	A	N	G						
45	K	A	L		46	47	48	M	O	N	A	M	I		49	50	51		
					52	T	I	N	A	S		53	N	I	P	P	E	R	
56	57	58	W	N		59	T	G	E	60		61	N	I	A	L	L		
62	A	G	E	N		63	D	A	S		64	65	A	N	E	E	D	L	E
66	R	O	E		67	I	P	A		68	T	O	P	T	E	N	S		
69	A	S	K		70	N	E	T		71	E	S	T	A	D	O	S		

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5	2	8	3	7	9	4	1	6
3	6	9	1	2	4	5	8	7
6	7	5	9	8	3	2	4	1
2	8	4	6	1	7	3	5	9
9	3	1	4	5	2	6	7	8

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In Loving Memory of
Edna Margaret Burden
(nee Pearsell)

Co-owner of the West Guilford Store for 41 years.

Passed away peacefully at Extendicare, Haliburton on Sunday, May 5, 2024 with her loving husband, children, grandchildren and friends by her side, at the age of 79.

Beloved wife of Bill Burden of West Guilford. Loving mother of Chad (Steph), Cori (Jason), loving gramma of Chase, Ellie (Evan) and Piper. Edna is predeceased by her brothers Michael and Roger and is lovingly remembered by her good friends Carol-Anne and Dick Schell.

In keeping with Edna's wishes, cremation has taken place and a Private Family Interment will be held at the 12 Mile Lake Cemetery, Carnarvon at a later date.

Memorial Donations to the Extendicare Proud Pioneers (by cheque only) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



In Loving Memory of
Ruth Lenora Lauzon
(nee Wilman)

Passed away at the Haliburton Hospital on Sunday, May 5, 2024 at the age of 93.

Beloved wife of William Douglas Lauzon for 72 years. Dear mother of Bill, Karen and her husband Frank, Shelley and her husband the late Randy. Loving grandma of Brian and his wife June. Dear sister of Jean, Janet, Joe, Steve and predeceased by John, Donald and Gordon. Fondly remembered by family and friends.

Private Family Graveside Service at Pine Grove Cemetery, Norland.



HELP WANTED



Camp White Pine is seeking **Laundry and Cleaning Staff** for summer work in July and August. Starting at \$23/hour. Email info@campwhitepine.com or call 416-322-6250.

The Highlander

The Highlander is looking for **a summer student.**

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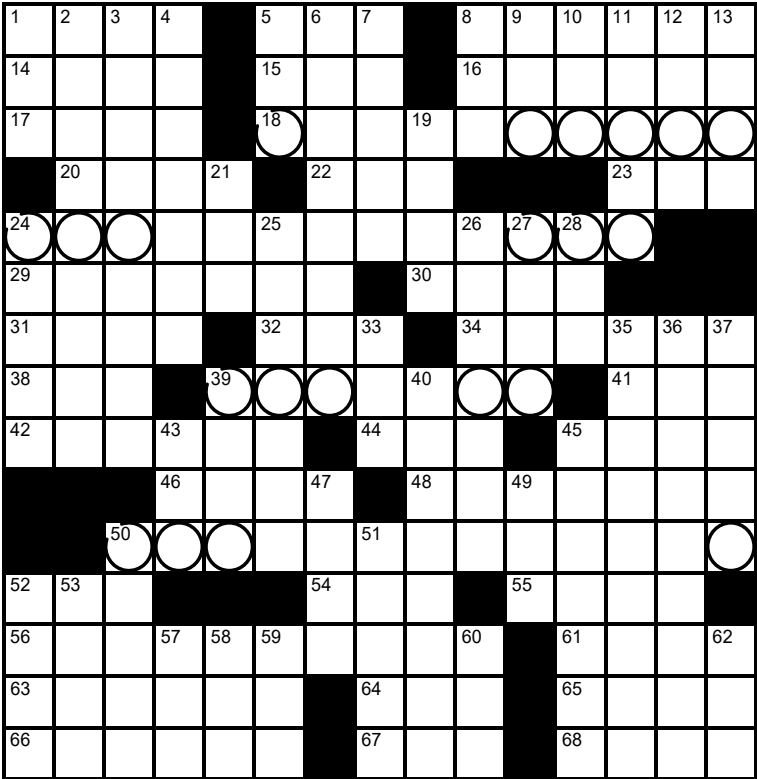
We thank all those who apply, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Make a Break For It

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Learning basics
 - 5 Paul's musical partner
 - 8 With 56-Across, digital printing process, as seen in 18-, 24-, 39- and 50-Across
 - 14 Work-related move
 - 15 Glop
 - 16 Spark, as suspicion
 - 17 Very "pick me, pick me!"
 - 18 Beyond cell service area
 - 20 ___ A (post-seminar exchange)
 - 22 Groening character with a broom moustache
 - 23 Fish and chips fish
 - 24 Like the basics
 - 29 Unleashes a tirade on
 - 30 Like a pin, in a simile
 - 31 Spanish cheers
 - 32 Track syst.
 - 34 Hadn't bought outright
 - 38 P.M.s, in classifieds
 - 39 Guys' night out
 - 41 Green toast topper, for short
 - 42 Attend unattended
 - 44 Poli-___
 - 45 Pre-teen school yrs.
 - 46 Homophone of use and ewes
 - 48 Way to stand in the Canadian anthem
 - 50 Groom's partner, jokingly
 - 52 "Not ___ can help it!"
 - 54 Be possessive?
 - 55 Alone: Comb. form
 - 56 See 8-Across
 - 61 Abodes, slangily
 - 63 Took out of a bank, in a way
 - 64 Lanka lead-in
 - 65 Fail to mention
 - 66 Donates funds to, as a college
 - 67 TV buyer's channel?
 - 68 Liverwurst spread
- Down
- 1 Ten Commandments chest
 - 2 Have the same value as
 - 3 Lack of uncertainty
 - 4 Poems ending in a rhyming couplet
 - 5 Back then
 - 6 Second part of a bout
 - 7 Airplane carry-ons
 - 8 Half-___ (Starbucks choice)
 - 9 "Bobby: My Story in Pictures" memoirist
 - 10 Mauna ___ (Earth's largest volcano)
 - 11 Preventative measure?
 - 12 "Let ___ then, you and I ...": T.S. Eliot
 - 13 Oboe
 - 19 Viking war god
 - 21 Marx's "___ Kapital"
 - 24 Plug-in point
 - 25 Vancouver's Second ___ Bridge
 - 26 Cat calling?
 - 27 One in a chess octet
 - 28 4G wireless letters
 - 33 3-ft. lengths
 - 35 "My religion is kindness" speaker
 - 36 Took things too far
 - 37 Words with guerre or plume
 - 39 Chicken cordon ___
 - 40 Carroll and Sinéad
 - 43 Castor or Standard, in a comic strip
 - 45 Genre of ABBA
 - 47 Unfixable
 - 49 "Pygmalion" writer's monogram
 - 50 It stands on its own two feet
 - 51 "Yeah, if only"
 - 52 Understanding words
 - 53 "Charlotte's Web" girl
 - 57 Fuss, in a Shakespeare title
 - 58 Tape recorder's "go back"
 - 59 Newspaper revenue source
 - 60 Writer Anaïs
 - 62 Quebec town ___-Julie, known for its fudge



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	6				7			9





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